

Agencies are advised that effective June 1, 2015, the total daily dollar value limits for credit card and debit card transactions are changing.

Debit Card

Debit card transaction amounts are unlimited but are subject to limitations placed on the card by the holder's bank.

Credit Card

The new total daily dollar value limit for credit card transactions using a single credit card will be lowered to \$24,999.99. The previous limit was \$49,999.99.

Any individual credit card transaction over \$24,999.99 will be declined by Financial Management Service's (FMS) Card Acquiring Service.

For customers conducting multiple credit card transactions using the same card on the same day, any of the individual transactions that cause the total dollar value of all the credit card transactions to exceed the \$24,999.99 daily limit will be declined by the card acquiring agency.

Individual credit card transactions larger than the \$24,999.99 limit may not be split into multiple transactions using the same credit card, whether or not the split transactions are assigned to multiple days. Splitting a transaction violates card network and FMS rules. However, credit card transactions exceeding the daily limit may be split between two or more different cards.

Credit Card Transaction Examples

1. A customer conducts an online credit card transaction with an Agency through Pay.gov for \$25,000. The transaction will be declined by the card acquiring service because it exceeds the daily credit card dollar value limit.
2. A customer uses the same credit card on the same day to conduct three transactions with US Government entities. The first credit card transaction is conducted with an agency online via Pay.gov and totals \$10,000.00. The second credit card transaction is conducted with another agency via a different online channel and totals \$10,000.00. The third credit card transaction is an over-the-counter purchase at the Bureau of Land Management for a total of \$6,000.00. The combined total for all three transactions conducted on the same day is \$26,000.00.
The third transaction will be declined by the card acquiring agency because it causes the total of the transactions charged to the credit card on that day to exceed the total daily dollar value limit of \$24,999.99.
3. A customer conducts two online credit card transactions with an Agency via Pay.gov on a single day. Two different credit cards are used. The first credit card is used to pay \$22,000.00. The second credit card is used to pay \$24,000.00. Both transactions will be processed by the card acquiring agency service.
4. A customer conducts a single transaction with an agency via Pay.gov. The total dollar amount of the transaction is \$27,000. The amount of the transaction is split between two separate credit cards. The card acquiring service will process both charges.

Agencies should be aware that large-dollar credit card and debit card transaction are costlier for Federal Government than small-dollar transactions. When collecting large-dollar transactions, agencies should use the other less expensive electronic alternatives such as Pay.gov ACH direct debit collections option. Please refer to section 9 of the Pay.gov Agency Guide to the Collections Service and section 10 of the Pay.gov User Guide for more information.